The Library of Congress'

EARLY STATE RECORDS PROJECT

converted from the original microfilm held by the
Vincent C. Immel Law Library, Saint Louis University

through the generous support of a grant from the

Council on Library and Information Resources

This document contains handwritten text that may be partially illegible due to age, penmanship, or deterioration of the medium. LLMC has scanned the material in the same format and page order in which it is maintained in the source document taken from the collection "Records of the States of the United States of America, a microfilm compilation."

State of Vermont } In Council arlington 12 Dec. 1780

Sir.

Inclosed I transmit your Excellency a Copy of my letter to Congress of the 25th of July last which together with this I request may be laid before the Legislature of the State over whom you preside.

For their perusal & Consideration. The arguments & representations therein exhibited are equally applicable for the Consideration of the several Legislatures of the United States seperately. may and great are the evils which Vermont labour under, Congress claiming a Jurisdiction over them, three of the United States claiming their Territory, in whole or in part to those very States, and Exposed to British invasions, from Canada who being possessed of the Lakes can suddenly bring their whole force into this State, which beyond hesitation will be their Object next Campaign, unles some emediate measures be adopted to prevent, as they have already Destroyed the frontier settlements of the State of New York - in a word their force will undoubtedly be so great, that it will be out of the power of this State to form magazines, and support a body of troops sufficient to withstand them, and the consequence must inevitably be either that the people of this State be sacrafised Or 2ndly be obligded to retire in to the interior parts of the United States for safety, or 3dly. be under the disagreeable necessity of making the best terms with the British that may be in their power nearly the same would be the condition of either of the United States, seperately considered from their union (as they would be unable to withstand the British power) which may abondantly serviceable to them unless they are admitted into union - This State are of opinion that it is high time she had better assurances from the several states now in union whither at the Conclusion of the Present war, she may without molestation injoy her Independence or whether she is only atagling

in a bloody war, to establish neighboring States in their Independence to overthrow or swallow up our own and Deprive her Citizens of their landed Estates —

I do therefore in Behalf of this State, Demand your Legislature that they relinquish their pretensions of a Claim to jurisdiction over and every part of this State and reques them to join in a solid union with Vermont, against the British forces which invade the American States —

Such a union for the mutual advantage of both States I am ready to ratify and confirm on the part of this State

I Have the Honor to be Sir your Excellency's most Obt. and most Humble Servant

Thomas Chittenden

His Excellency's
Gov. Hancock

a true copy attest Thomas Tolman P. Secry